

THE NATIONAL CANCER MOONSHOT INITIATIVE

The 21st Century Cures Act, passed in 2016, authorized \$1.8 billion over 7 years to fund the Cancer Moonshot, which has three overarching goals: to accelerate progress in our understanding of cancer, to encourage collaborations and partnerships, and to enhance data sharing.

To date, Congress has appropriated \$1.195 billion, with which the NCI has launched a series of new scientific initiatives that directly address the goals of the Cancer Moonshot. Progress over the past 3 years has been substantial. In November of 2019, NCI hosted its first Cancer Moonshot collaborative meeting that offered the opportunity for hundreds of investigators, from across 9 different research networks

with different expertise, to share results and exchange ideas in areas such as the tumor microenvironment, novel drug targets, emerging treatment approaches, and data integration and visualizations. To continue to foster communication, NCI is launching a new Cancer Moonshot seminar series that will continue to showcase its progress.

As findings of the Cancer Moonshot initiatives are published, we can expect to gain insights into cancer that will benefit patients, while giving investigators new avenues to pursue. These opportunities were made possible by decades of investment in basic science and sustained support for the entire cancer research enterprise.

Examples of new and ongoing Cancer Moonshot projects include:

Using direct patient engagement approaches to promote participation in cancer genome sequencing programs to address knowledge gaps in our understanding of cancer, such as rare cancers and understudied populations.

Designing and testing approaches that enhance communication, collaboration, and coordination among different clinicians involved in the transition from treatment to follow-up care for cancer survivors to improve outcomes

Improving colorectal cancer screening, follow-up, and referral for care among populations that have low colorectal cancer screening rates—particularly racial and ethnic minority populations and people living in rural areas

Developing interventions to mitigate long-term adverse effects for pediatric, adolescent, and young adult cancer survivors

Creating new experimental models for investigating how tumors resist therapies and for exploring ways to make cancers more sensitive to treatments

Generating racially and ethnically diverse patient-derived models to understand disparities observed in the outcomes of cancer treatments

Developing improved cancer immunotherapies that reduce immune-related adverse events

Using advanced imaging technologies to create dynamic atlases of the multidimensional tumor ecosystem

NCI is currently planning new research opportunities for FY 2021. In addition, the Institute continues to provide opportunities for collaboration, data sharing, and outreach. For more information and updates, visit cancer.gov/moonshot